

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8602

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS MADRID 2246

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR FR SP

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S FRENCH VISIT

REF: STATE 70190

SUNDAY DAILIES COVERED THE CONTACTS BETWEEN PRESIDENT NIXON AND SOME FOREIGN LEADERS BUT OTHERWISE CARRIED SPARSE COMMENTS ON THE PRESIDENT'S STAY IN PARIS.

YA (ROMAN CATHOLIC), MADRID, PRINTED A REPORT FILED BY ITS PARIS CORRESPONDENT HEADLINED "NIXON, PROTAGONIST" WHICH SAID: "ALL HIS MEETINGS SEEK TO FIND OUT SOMETHING ABOUT THE PRESENT LEADERS' ATTITUDE IN CONNECTION WITH A POSSIBLE SUMMIT MEETING TO BE HELD BEFORE THE MONTH OF JUNE...INTENDED TO INSTITUTIONALIZE AMERICAN LEADERSHIP OF THE ATLANTIC WORLD."

THE INTERNATIONAL COLUMNISH OF THIS SAME PAPER WROTE THAT:

"PRESIDENT NIXON HAS DECIDED TO STAY ANOTHER DAY IN ORDER TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH CHANCELLOR BRANDT AND PRIME MINISTER WILSON. HE ALSO SAW, OF COURSE, AD INTERIM PRESIDENT POHER OF FRANCE. NIXON MIGHT HAVE TRIED IN THESE MEETINGS TO SOFTEN THINGS HE HAS SAID WHICH IMPLIED A THREAT TO EUROPE OF THE WITHDRAWAL OR REDUCTION OF AMERICAN MILITARY HELP. BUT IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT ANYTHING

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POSITIVE MAY COME OUT OF THE PARIS TALKS."

ALL DAILIES CARRIED THE NEWS THAT NIXON POSTPONED HIS
RETURN FROM PARIS AND HAD HELD MEETINGS WITH TANAKA, WILSON
AND BRANDT.

HOJA DEL LUNES (PRESS ASSOCIATION, THE ONLY NEWSPAPER
PRINTED MONDAYS), MADRID, CARRIES THE NEWS OF THE PRESIDENT'S
MEETING WITH PODGORNÝ AND WROTE:

"ALTHOUGH NO COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED AFTER THE MEETING, IT
IS FELT IN DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES THAT THE MAIN SUBJECT THAT
WAS DISCUSSED WAS THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE COMING
US-SOVIET UNION 'SUMMIT' TO BE HELD IN MOSCOW NEXT JUNE."

IT ALSO REPORTED NIXON'S RETURN TO WASHINGTON.
RIVERO

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